

2004 – 2005 Rhode Island Hunting and Trapping Abstract



Rhode Island
Division of Fish and Wildlife
www.state.ri.us/dem

**Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife
2004 - 2005 Hunting and Trapping Abstract**

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(More telephone numbers page 3)

Cover photo- wildlife, hunter safety and development staff

From the Chief...

The Division of Fish and Wildlife is in the process of developing a comprehensive plan for statewide wildlife conservation. This program, called the State Wildlife Grants (SWG) is the most significant contribution to wildlife funding in recent history. We will be soliciting your input for the plan during the coming year.

As always, please insure the continuation of hunting in Rhode Island by acting responsibly, courteously, ethically, and above all, SAFELY, so that we may all enjoy the great tradition of hunting. I look forward to a successful season,*Michael Lapisky*

Please keep in mind this booklet contains abstracts of hunting and trapping laws and regulations. For more detailed information, see the General Laws of Rhode Island, obtainable in most public libraries. A complete copy of the Seasons and Bag Limits and Management Area regulations may be reviewed at the Rhode Island Division of Fish & Wildlife, Government Center, 4808 Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI 02879.

The Division of Fish and Wildlife Mission Statement

Our mission is to ensure that the Freshwater, Marine and Wildlife resources of the State of Rhode Island will be conserved and managed for equitable and sustainable use.

NEW THIS SEASON

- ◆ All either sex deer permits must be purchased prior to the season- all antlerless permits may be purchased at any time throughout the season. Bonus tags available after checking as provided.
- ◆ Prudence and Patience Islands- 1 either sex deer AND 1 antlerless plus bonus antlerless available after checking previous antlerless (see pg. 16 for details)
- ◆ New dates for muzzle-loading and shotgun deer seasons, see pages 13 & 14.
- ◆ Shotgun deer hunting permitted in all counties including Newport and Bristol. See your local ordinances for restrictions in your area.
- ◆ Deer hunting statutory change- recent legislation now permits seniors 65 and older and certain permanently handicapped hunters to use adaptive aids for archery and/or crossbow, with a special permit, pending a regulatory hearing in late August. See page 15 for more details and hunter safety information.
- ◆ Names on arrows no longer being required for archery deer hunters. Mechanical broadhead regulations will be announced after August hearing. See page 15
- ◆ Management Areas open for small game hunting on Friday afternoons for pheasant stocking
- ◆ Purchase of Pheasant Permit again required-see page 18.

Additional abstracts available...

Rhode Island Freshwater Fishing Abstract
Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Laws & Regulations
Waterfowl Hunting Season Guide (available in late September)
Wild Turkey Hunting Regulations (available February, 2005)
Lyme disease, rabies, and other pamphlets are available on request.

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“It is the policy of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management to offer its services, and accommodations to all orderly persons, and, as required, to all properly licensed persons, without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, or handicap.” If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, facility, or if you desire further information, please write to the Office for Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, Washington, D.C. 20240.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Environmental Management

Director's Office	(401)222-2771
Division Chief.....	(401)789-3094
Fish and Wildlife Field Headquarters (Great Swamp).....	(401)789-0281
Round Top Station	(401)568-8200
Hunter Education	(401)789-3094
License Information.....	(401)222-3576
Division of Enforcement	(401)222-3070
Complaints of Violation (24 hour Service)	(401)222-3070
Boater Registration	(401)222-6647
Check Stations	see page 28
Beach Vehicle Permits.....	(401)322-8910, after 10/31 call (401)783-3370
Animal Damage Technical Assistance	(401)789-0281
Division of Parks and Recreation	(401)222-2632
Aquatic Education.....	(401)789-0281
Marine Fisheries.....	(401)423-1920
Division of Forest Environment	(401)647-3367
Division of Agriculture	(401)222-2781
Tick Research Laboratory.....	(401)874-2650

DEFINITIONS *(this is a partial listing)*

Antlerless Deer – Deer having no antlers or antlers less than three (3) inches in length.

Bearded Turkey – A turkey which carries a visible beard *& tuft of stiff filament-like feathers projecting outward and downward from the center of the chest* .

Box Trap –any trigger-operated device intended to restrain an animal by confinement in a box or cage.

Conibear-type trap – “conibear” model traps and similar body-gripping traps and devices, whether or not enclosed in or comprising part of a box, tube, or other enclosing device.

Driving deer – to pursue, drive, chase, or otherwise frighten or cause a deer to move in a direction toward a person or persons known to be waiting for a deer, for the purpose of hunting.

Daylight fluorescent orange –the color orange having a dominant wavelength between 595 and 606 nanometers, an excitation purity not less than 85 percent, and a lumination factor not less than 40 percent.

Furbearer – defined as the following species: coyote, gray fox, red fox, raccoon, fisher, short-tailed weasel, long-tailed weasel, mink, striped skunk, river otter, bobcat, beaver, gray squirrel, muskrat, opossum, eastern cottontail, New England cottontail, snowshoe hare (RIGL 20-16-1).

Jacklighting – The use of an artificial light to illuminate, locate, attempt to locate, or show up wild birds or mammals or any other vertebrates.

Migratory game bird –Per US Fish & Wildlife, those migratory birds included in the conventions between the United States and any foreign country for the protection of migratory birds, belonging to the following families: Anatidae (ducks, geese & swans); Columbidae (doves & pigeons); Gruidae (cranes); Rallidae (rails, coots, & gallinules); Scolopacidae (woodcock & snipe).

Paraplegic – individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs.

RIGL – Rhode Island General Law

RIHR – Rhode Island Hunting Regulations

Small Game – For the purposes of Rhode Island hunting regulations includes fox, gray squirrel, partridge (ruffed grouse), pheasant, quail, rabbits, raccoon and snowshoe hare.

Licenses and Permits

No person shall hunt, pursue, take or kill any wild bird or animal in the state without first having obtained a Rhode Island hunting license (RIGL 20-13-1). Hunters must have a license in possession, on their person, at all times and shall present it for inspection to any authorized person demanding same. Failure to present a license shall make a person liable to the same penalties as if he or she was hunting without a license (RIGL 20-2-9). Licensed hunters and trappers are subject to inspection of any boat, vehicle, game bag, blind, stand, or other paraphernalia used in conjunction with licensed activity (RIGL 20-2-32). Licenses may be suspended or revoked because of violations of hunting rules and regulations (RIGL 20-2-13).

LICENSES, STAMPS, AND PERMITS

The following licenses, stamps, and permits are available from DEM Division of Licensing at 235 Promenade St. Providence; most city and town clerks; and most sporting goods stores. To replace a lost or stolen license or permit contact DEM Division of Licensing.

Licenses, stamps, and permits	Fees
Resident Hunting(must be 15 years old) ¹	\$18.00
Combination (Hunting & Fishing)	33.00
Non-Resident Hunting (must be 15 years old) ¹	45.00
Non-Resident (3 day hunting) Tourist License	16.00
Permanent Resident combination (over 65 years old, or disabled)	No fee ³
Resident and Non-Resident active military personnel	18.00
Resident Deer ²	12.50
Non-Resident Deer ²	25.50
Turkey Permit resident	7.50
Turkey Permit non-resident	20.00
RI Waterfowl stamp	7.50
RI HIP Permit	No fee
RI Pheasant Stamp, resident and non resident	15.50

- ¹NOTE: A Junior Hunting License is available for persons age 12-14 years of age upon completion of Hunter Safety Course. Must hunt in immediate company of adult, 21 years of age or older, holding valid RI Hunting License.
- ²Individual seasonal permits required for each deer hunted. See Deer Hunting information, pg. 12.
- ³NOTE: Any resident reaching 65 years may obtain a free permanent license from the offices of the DEM or any city or town clerk. Permanent disability licenses are available at the offices of the DEM.
- The following licenses, stamps, and permits are only available from DEM Division of Licensing, 235 Promenade St, Providence, RI 02908.

Shooting Preserve.....	\$ 25.00
Shooting Preserve Hunting License	3.50
Trapping (Resident).....	10.00
Trapping (Non-Resident) if reciprocal privileges are allowed	30.00
Fur Buyer (Resident).....	10.00
Fur Buyer (Non-Resident)	30.00

The following stamps and permits are available through DEM Division of Fish & Wildlife, Government Center, 4808 Tower Hill Rd, Wakefield. Ph. 789-3094 with the exception of the deer damage permit which is available by application from the Division of Agriculture.

Deer damage permit (application from Division of Agriculture required).....	25.00
Night hunting permit for deer damage.....	25.00
Nuisance animal control permit (application and trapping permit required)	25.00
Rhode Island waterfowl collector stamp.....	7.50
Management area group use permit	No fee
Game bird stocking permit	No fee
Great Swamp Shooting Range Permit	No fee

The following stamps and permits are available, at no fee, through DEM Division of Fish & Wildlife, Great Swamp Field Headquarters, PO Box 218, W. Kingston, RI 02892. Ph. 789-0281.

Northwest Cooperative Hunting Area deer permit	Late Season Canada Goose permit
Prudence & Patience Is. deer reservations	South Shore Mgt Area goose hunting
Prudence Heritage Property, pending	Burlingame North Camp hunting permit
Francis Carter Cooperative deer permit	Great Swamp Shooting Range Permit

Fluorescent Orange Requirement

Fluorescent orange safety clothing is required during the hunting season statewide for all hunters. To meet this requirement, safety clothing must be **solid** daylight fluorescent orange. Fluorescent camouflage does not meet this requirement. The hunter orange must be worn above the waist and be visible in all directions. Examples are: a hat that covers 200 square inches or combination of hat and vest covering 500 square inches.

The following orange requirements apply:

1. 200 sq. in. by small game hunters during the small game season.
2. 200 sq. in. by muzzleloader hunters during muzzle-loading deer season.
3. 200 sq. in. by archers(including crossbows) when traveling to/from stands during muzzle-loading deer season. 500 sq. in. by hunters on Block Island.
4. 500 sq. in. by **all hunters** (including archers) **and all users** during shotgun deer season.
5. 200 sq. in. by archery deer hunters during muzzle-loader and 500 sq. in. by archery deer hunters during shotgun deer season)

Exemptions: Specifically, waterfowl hunters while hunting from a boat or a blind, over water or field, when done in conjunction with decoys, crow hunting over decoys, turkey hunters, and first segment dove hunters.

In addition to the above hunter requirements, all other users (hikers, bicyclists, horse back riders, etc.) of State Management areas are required to wear 200 square inches of solid daylight fluorescent orange from the third Saturday in October to the last day of February annually, and during established mourning dove season and wild turkey season.

SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Species	Bag Limit	Possession Limit	Season Dates
Crow	None	Unlimited	Aug. 20 – Oct. 10, 2004. Fri, Sat, Sun, only Oct. 16 – Nov. 26, 2004 Dec. 24, 2004 – Apr. 3, 2005. Fri, Sat, Sun, only
Crow (North Prudence Island Mgt. Area)	None	Unlimited	Jan. 10 – Jan. 31, 2005
Early Canada Goose	8	16	Sept. 1 – 30, 2004
Mourning Dove	12	24	Sept. 25 - Oct. 11, 2004 Oct. 16 - Nov. 21, 2004 Dec. 29 - Jan. 13, 2005
Woodcock	3	6	Oct. 28 – Nov. 26, 2004
Rails	5	10	Sept. 4 – Nov. 12, 2004
Snipe	5	10	Sept. 4 – Nov. 12, 2004
Sea Ducks (eider, oldsquaw, and scoter)	7 ¹	14	Oct. 9 2004 - Jan. 23, 2005
Other Ducks	Federal framework not established at time of printing, see waterfowl abstract for seasons and bag limits		

¹ Only 4 of any one species of sea duck allowed per daily bag, 8 per possession limit.

The methods of taking and prohibited methods of taking migratory birds and waterfowl shall be the same as the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR Part 20). A HIP permit is required for hunting migratory birds.

NO CLOSED SEASON on red squirrel, woodchuck, house sparrow, starling, monk parakeet, rock dove, chipmunk and coyote [coyote pelts must be tagged by Fish & Wildlife prior to sale]. Hunting of these species **prohibited during shotgun deer season**, November 27-December 5 on state and private land, and continued on private land December 6-December 12, on the mainland, in Providence, Kent, Newport, Bristol and Washington Counties. **Exception – coyote may be taken while in possession of a valid deer tag.**

PATIENCE AND PRUDENCE ISLAND HUNTING is highly regulated, bag limits and open season dates are different from Mainland seasons and bag limits. Please refer to the specific hunting season.

Time to get HIP

The Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program

Through the cooperation of hunters, the HIP program will give state wildlife agencies and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) much better information for managing our nation's migratory bird resources. If you hunt any kind of migratory birds, you will be required to participate during the 2004/2005 season. To comply with HIP, all migratory bird hunters will need to obtain a permit and answer a survey.

2004 - 2005 SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

Note: Please refer to specific pages for additional important regulations

SPECIES	Codes* R/NR	Bag Limit	Season Dates
Deer (Archery) Block Island <i>Archery continues through shotgun season see block below</i>	BA05/BA25 BA11/BA31	None see regs	Oct. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26,27, 28, 29 Nov. 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12
Deer (Archery) Mainland Either Sex Antlerless Bonus Antlerless	MA01/MA21 MA10/MA30 MA09/MA29	2/3 ¹	Junior Archery: Sept. 25-26, 2004 Oct. 1, 2004 – Jan. 31, 2005
Deer(Archery) Pru./Pat. IIs. Either sex Antlerless Bonus	PA04/PA24 PA15/PA35 PA13/PA33	2/3 ¹	Oct. 22, 2004 – Jan 9, 2005 (or until quota is filled)
Deer (Muzzle-loading) Mainland Either sex Antlerless, private land Bonus antlerless, private land	ML02/ML22 ML08/ML28 ML14/ML34	2/3 ¹	Oct.30 – Nov. 19, 2004 Oct 30 - Nov.19, 2004 December 20-26, 2004
Deer (Shotgun) Block Island <i>Archery permit valid during this time period. (Private land only)</i>	BS06/BS26 BS12/BS32	None see regs	Nov. 15,16,18,19, 22,23,24,29,30 Dec.2,3,6,7,8,9,10,13,14,16,17,20,21,22,23 Jan.3,4,6,7,10,11,12,13,14,18,20,21,24,25, 26,27,28,31 Feb. 1,2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,14,15,16,17,18
Deer (Shotgun) Mainland Either sex Antlerless, private land	MS03/MS23 MS07/MS27	1 1	Nov. 27- Dec. 5, 2004 (state & private) Dec 6-12, 2004 (private land only) Nov. 27 – Dec. 12, 2004 (private land)
Deer (Paralegic) Prudence Is.	PS13/PS33	1	Oct. 12– Oct. 15, 2004
Deer (Paralegic) Fort Greene	PS13/PS33	1	Oct. 19 - Oct. 22, 2004
Ruffed Grouse		1 ^{2,4}	Oct. 16 - Nov. 26 Dec 13 -31, 2004
Bobwhite Quail		3 ²	Oct. 16 – Nov. 26 Dec. 13 -31, 2004
Pheasant (Season limit 12 w/ purchase of 2 permits)		2 ^{2,3}	Oct. 16 – Nov. 26, 2004 Dec. 13, 2004 – Jan. 17, 2005
Fox		None ²	Oct. 16 – Nov. 26, 2004 Dec. 13, 2003 – Feb.28, 2005
Gray Squirrel		5 ²	Oct. 16 – Nov. 26, 2004 Dec. 13, 2004 – Feb.28, 2005
Snowshoe Hare		1 ²	Oct. 16 – Nov. 26, 2004 Dec. 13, 2004 – Feb.28, 2005
Rabbit		3 ²	Oct. 16 – Nov. 26, 2004 Dec. 13, 2004 – Feb.28, 2005
Raccoon		None ²	Oct. 1 -Nov. 26, 2004 Dec.13, 2004 - Feb. 28, 2005
Coyote		None ⁵	No closed season
Wild Turkey		1	Junior & parapalegic: April 23-24, 2005 April 28 – May 26, 2005

¹ Bonus antlerless deer permit valid on private land, available after checking as provided.

² Small game open on Management Areas December 6-12

³ Pheasant: New Shoreham, for dates, see page 18. New Shoreham, Newport & Bristol Co. limited to male birds

⁴ Grouse Hunting closed on Great Swamp & Arcadia management area.

⁵ NO CLOSED SEASON on coyote. Hunting prohibited during shotgun deer season without a valid deer tag.

*Codes refer to resident and nonresident deer tags respectively.

Local Hunting Ordinances

Some towns restrict hunting and, therefore, it is important to check town ordinances before hunting. Towns closed to Sunday hunting include Portsmouth, Little Compton, Middletown, Barrington, Jamestown, and Tiverton (including Sapowet Management Area). Some towns require written permission of the landowner, and/or local police department. For local and Sunday hunting regulations, check with the town police department or town clerk. **Landowner permission is required for all hunting on Block Island.**

LEGAL SHOOTING HOURS

Species	Hours	Remarks
Deer	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	
Coyote	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	
Small Game	Sunrise to sunset	On opening day legal shooting hours begin at 7:00 am.
Waterfowl	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	See waterfowl abstract.
Dove	12:00 pm to sunset Sunrise to Sunset	First segment of season Second and third segments
Turkey	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1:00pm	Hunters must be out of the woods no later than 1:00 pm
Raccoon	No restricted hours	Begins at 6:00 p.m. on Oct. 1.
Trapping	Traps may not be set before 8:00 am on opening day of respective seasons.	

PROHIBITED

General:

- No loaded rifles or shotguns in or on vehicles (RIGL 20-13-8).
- No shooting at, hunting, or pursuing game along, upon, or across a public highway (20-13-9).
- No hunting while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs (20-13-10).
- **It is a violation of law, punishable by a fine and imprisonment, to fire "into" land for which one does not have landowner permission.**
- No hunting on posted land or state parks, removing or defacing posters thereon, doing willful damage to property (RIGL 11-44-4,5).
- No more than five persons to hunt in unison (RIGL 20-13-11).
- Target or trap shooting on state lands is only allowed on provided ranges (RIGL 32-2-4).
- Shooting at any animal at anytime while such animal is on a telephone or electric line, pole, or tower or any communication device (RIHR 15.8).

Shooting Restrictions:

- The use of laser sights or night vision on any firearm or bow while hunting is illegal (RIHR 14.10).
- No lead shot larger than No. 2 at any time, except shotgun season for deer (RIGL 20-13-13).
- No rifles other than .22 caliber rimfire at any time, however, from Apr. 1 to Sept. 30, (both dates inclusive), centerfire rifles no larger than .229 caliber may be used during daylight hours (RIGL 20-13-13).
- Discharge of a firearm within 500 feet of an occupied dwelling without written permission.
- Archery deer hunting, including crossbows, within 200 feet of an occupied dwelling.

Wildlife Restrictions:

- The importation, exportation, possession, liberation, or sale of any mute swan and/or eggs thereof, or live pen-reared or hybrid wild turkey and/or eggs thereof (RIHR 15.2,3).
- Importing of live birds or animals without permit (RIGL 20-17-9).
- Taking of birds by any method other than shotgun, bow and arrow, or falconry with permit (RIGL 20-14-17).
- The sale of game, except as provided (RIGL 20-13-14).
- Spotlighting for wild animals and birds is prohibited on both Prudence Island & Patience Island, from October 1 – January 9, and at all times on Block Island

PROTECTED WILDLIFE

The Lacey Act of 1900, the first federal game law, regulates interstate and international commerce in wildlife. The term “wildlife”, for the purposes of the act, means any wild animal, wild bird, amphibian, reptile, mollusk, or crustacean, or their dead bodies, parts, eggs, or offspring, but does not include migratory birds for which protection is afforded under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Briefly, action can be taken against anyone who transports, ships, or sells wildlife in interstate or foreign commerce contrary to state or foreign laws, or transports any package not properly labeled or tagged.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act, signed in 1918, includes agreements between the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Mexico, Japan, and Russia for the protection of migratory bird populations. Migratory birds are protected by the federal government with provisions allowing state regulation. All birds, their parts, nests, and eggs are protected, except as provided by open hunting seasons, refer to Rhode Island waterfowl abstract for more information.

Reptiles and Amphibians

The removal from the wild, for any purposes, of any reptile or amphibian (to include eggs or nest) except bullfrogs, green frogs and snapping turtles is prohibited except by special permit (RIHR 12.1). The release into the wild of any non-native reptile or amphibians is prohibited.

The following species of reptiles and amphibians (to include eggs or nests) are protected and possession without permit is prohibited at all times: Timber rattlesnake, *Crotalus horridus*; northern diamondback terrapin, *Malaclemys terrapin*; wood turtle, *Clemmys insculpta*; eastern box turtle, *Terrapene carolina*; spotted turtle, *Clemmys guttata*; and bog turtle, *Clemmys uhlenbergi* (RIHR 12.2). The taking of snapping turtles at any time shall be limited to the following methods: turtle traps, snagging, snaring, grabbing, jugging, bow and arrow, or while legally fishing. Traps and jugs must carry the trapper’s name and address (RIHR 12.1) .

STATE LANDS

State Management Areas

There are over 46,000 acres of land designated as state management areas in Rhode Island. Maps of management areas are available from the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife at the Great Swamp Field Office. Regulations are designed and enforced to allow all outdoor enthusiasts to safely enjoy these land holdings. Hunting and trapping is allowed during the open seasons. In order to effectively manage and safeguard these open areas for people, wildlife, and habitat, the following regulations are to be adhered to while on state management areas:

Regulations:

- All state management areas will be closed to all hunting, Oct. 11-15 2004 except waterfowl hunting, as provided, and bow hunting for deer.
- The possession of a valid Rhode Island hunting, or combination hunting and fishing license, shall serve as a permit to hunt State Management Areas (RIGL 20-18-2 and 20-18-3). This permit shall be valid only from Sept. 1, 2004– Feb. 28, 2005 except when check stations are in operation or when special permits are required for deer, waterfowl, or turkey hunting on state lands. The carrying of firearms on state management areas at any other time is prohibited. *Only archery equipment may be possessed or used while hunting white-tailed deer within the Simmons Mill Pond Management Area, Little Compton.*
- Except for fishing, hunting, launching, and/or mooring of boats, all management areas are closed 1/2 hour after sunset to 5:00 a.m., except by written permit. (RIGL 32-2-4)
- Camping is prohibited on all areas with the exception of portions designated at Arcadia and George Washington Management Areas, *(contact the Division of Forest Environment for camping information)*.
- The use of motorcycles is prohibited except in designated portions of Arcadia Mgt. Area.
- The use of ATV's is prohibited statewide.
- The blocking of any gate, road, or access in State Management Areas is prohibited and subject to fines (RIGL 32-2-4).
- No person shall refuse to obey an enforcement officer or other authorized representative of the RI Department of Environmental Management (RIGL 32-2-4).
- Horseback riding is prohibited in the Great Swamp Management Area during small game and shotgun deer seasons (RIGL 32-2-4).
- Groups consisting of 10 or more persons must obtain a group use permit available from the Division of Fish & Wildlife, Great Swamp Field Headquarters.

Dogs on Management Areas: No dogs shall be trained, run, or exercised or be permitted to run at large on state management areas from March 15-August 15, inclusive, without written permission of the Director or authorized representative, except in specified dog training areas (below). Walking of dogs on a leash of not more than twenty-five (25) feet in length shall be permitted on roads and trails only. All dogs must be wearing a collar with the name and address of the owner or handler and license tag.

Special Dog Training Areas: Dog training is allowed in designated areas located within Arcadia Management Area (Midway Trail) in Exeter, Nicholas Farm Management Area (north of Trestle Trail) in Coventry, and Black Farm Management Area in Hopkinton from January 1 to September 30, from sunrise to sunset. The use of live birds is by special permit only. A hunting license is required when training dogs on wild game on state management areas, except when participating in state sanctioned field trials. Call Fish & Wildlife at 789-0281 for complete dog-training regulations, including training area maps.

Trapping on State Lands-Refer to page 19

State Parks

Hunting is prohibited on developed state parks (RIGL 32-2-4). The remaining undeveloped state parks are open to hunting, with the exception of the following restrictions:

John L. Curran State Park/Management Area. All hunting in this park shall be within the inner boundaries of the buffer zones as posted. Only shotguns and bow and arrows may be possessed or used while hunting. The hunting of and/or possession of Mourning Doves and/or Wild Pigeons (Rock Doves) are prohibited.

Burlingame State Park, North Camp Area. Hunting by special permit available from Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife, Great Swamp Field Headquarters.

Bay Islands

Narragansett Bay is home to many islands managed by the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Each has use restrictions specific to its needs. Please refer to specific seasons for more information.

Hope Island	No Trespassing Apr. 1 – Aug. 15, for nesting birds. All domestic animals prohibited except hunting dogs during small game and waterfowl season.
Little Gould Island (Sakonnet River)	No Trespassing Apr. 1 – Aug. 15, for nesting birds.
Big Gould Island (East passage)	No Trespassing Apr. 1 – Aug. 15, for nesting birds.
East & West Island (off Sakonnet Point)	No Trespassing Apr. 1 – Aug. 15, for nesting birds.
Dutch Island	Emergency closure due to safety hazards.
Hog Island	Closed to all hunting.
Prudence & Patience Islands	See Small Game and Deer Season sections.

Hunting and Hypothermia:

Hypothermia means lowered body temperature. It is very dangerous and can kill the unprepared. Submersion in water is not needed to become endangered by hypothermia. Wet clothing from perspiration or rain can cause hypothermia. It is also easily brought on by boating accidents. To avoid hypothermia the hunter must be prepared before going out. Staying dry is the most important step. Wear proper clothing, bring dry clothes in waterproof containers, dress in layers to avoid sweating. Avoid alcohol, as it increases moisture and heat loss while making you feel warmer. When hunting on or near the water, observe safe boating methods. Learn the symptoms of hypothermia, which begin with shivering and progress to listlessness, slurred speech and death. In 32° F water, this can occur in less than 15 minutes.

Symptoms & Aid for Hypothermia

	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Symptoms	Shivering Complaints of cold Loss of coordination Mental withdrawal & apathy.	Listlessness, mental confusion, refusal to recognize problem Uncontrollable shivering Slurred speech Stumbling clumsiness	Unresponsiveness Decreased pulse & respiration Shivering stops Change in skin color Collapse, unconsciousness
First Aid	End exposure – get victim out of cold & wet. Replace wet clothing with dry. Offer warm liquids or food only if victim is fully conscious	See first aid for mild symptoms. Wrap in blankets or sleeping bag When wet clothing cannot be changed, dry clothing layer by layer.	Deliver warmth to the head and body of the victim. Treatment should only be attempted if victim cannot be evacuated to a hospital

DEER HUNTING GENERAL INFORMATION

The wounding or killing of a deer must be reported to DEM within 24 hours, at hunter check stations, specified vendors, or to Environmental Police Officer: (401) 222-3070 (RIGL 20-15-1,8)

Deer permits are available at specified vendors, complete list available from the Division of Licensing.

Written landowner permission is required for deer hunting on private land (RIGL 20-15-1). It is not required that deer permits (tags) be signed by the landowner, provided the hunter has other written permission. Deer permits (tags) must be carried while hunting. Written permission must be shown to any authorized person upon demand, and must be presented when checking deer (RIHR 1.8).

Use of natural or artificial scents*, mouth or hand powered deer calls to attract deer are permitted.

* See Chronic Wasting Disease Advisory, page 21 - 23

Restrictions:

Only one firearm or bow may be possessed in the field per individual hunter while hunting deer. Check local ordinances for there are many other restrictions in towns.

Prohibited:

- The use of decoys or electrical calls. The construction and use of permanent tree stands. The use of nails, spikes, bolts, or climbing devices, which may damage trees on state property; and on private property without the permission of the landowner.
- Hunting, pursuing or molesting deer below mean high tidal water or while deer are swimming in any waters of the state.
- Feeding or baiting-The act of using , placing, giving, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering any material, or any act to maintain the availability of such material that attracts deer to feed on such material .

Tagging and Checking Procedures:

Deer must be tagged, with a valid deer permit (tag) for the appropriate season, immediately upon taking. All deer must be checked by a state Environmental Police Officer, at a state operated check station, or by approved vendors, within 24 hours. During the shotgun deer season all deer must be checked at a state operated check station, only. On the final day of the season, deer must be checked by 6:00pm. Deer taken on Prudence Island and Block Island must be checked before being removed from the islands. Deer taken on Patience Island may be checked at vendor check stations.

SHOTGUN DEER SEASON

MAINLAND

Seasons, Dates and Permits Required

- A. MAINLAND EITHER SEX SHOTGUN PERMIT – either sex deer may be taken in Providence, Kent, Newport, Bristol Counties and all of Washington county except New Shoreham (Block Island),

November 27 - December 5, 2004 on both private and state Management Areas
December 6 – December 12, 2004 on private land only.

- B. ANTLERLESS SHOTGUN PERMIT – antlerless, private land, Providence and Kent County, Newport and Bristol Counties, and Washington County except New Shoreham (Block Island).

Deer taken by shotgun must be checked within 24 hours (exception: by 6:00 P.M. Dec. 14). Deer must be checked at a state operated checking station. Check station hours will be 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Nov. 27 - Dec. 5, except Durfee Hill which will be 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. For check station locations, see pg. 28. Deer taken Dec. 6-12 must be checked at a vendor check station. For locations, see pg. 28.

Firearm Restrictions:

Shotguns limited to 10, 12, 16, and 20 gauge, **plugged to 5 shell maximum**. Buckshot is limited to 00 buck or larger and is prohibited in 20 gauge. No other shot but buckshot, sabot rounds, or rifled slug shall be carried or had in possession by any person while hunting deer.

Note: The Division will be proposing to phase out buckshot next season, 2005-06.

Orange requirements: A minimum of 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange placed on the head, chest, and back, is required.

Northwest Cooperative Deer Hunting Area: Shotgun hunters need no permit to hunt the Northwest Cooperative deer hunting area, but **must check in and out** of Durfee Hill Check Station daily Nov. 27 – Dec. 5, when check station is open. There is no shotgun season in this area December – 6 - 12. All regulations applicable to the shotgun season are valid for the Northwest Cooperative area.

John L. Curran State Park: All hunting in this park shall be within the inner boundaries of the buffer zones as posted. Only shotguns or bow and arrows may be possessed or used while hunting. The hunting of and/or possession of Mourning Doves and/or pigeons (Rock Doves) are prohibited.

BLOCK ISLAND

Seasons, Dates, and Permits Required

- A. Block Island Shotgun – either sex, private land.
B. Second Block Island Shotgun- either sex, private land.

Archery & Shotgun:

November	15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30
December	2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23
January	3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31
February	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

A Block Island shotgun deer permit is required to hunt on Block Island. In addition, all deer hunters must obtain written permission from the Block Island chief of police. State owned land is closed to hunting. Hunting on private land is by written landowner permission only. All deer must be tagged within 24 hours of taking, and checked before being removed from the island. Only rifled slugs and sabot rounds are permitted. Prior to the start of the season, five (5) permits may be purchased. After checking the first deer and receiving an affidavit, the hunter may purchase additional permits, having no more than 5 at one time on their person, to take additional deer.

PRUDENCE & PATIENCE ISLANDS & FORT GREENE

Special Deer Shotgun Season: for paraplegic and double amputees only, Prudence Oct. 12 – Oct. 15, 2004, Fort Greene Oct. 19 –22, 2004. For permits and regulations contact the Division of Licensing (401)222-6647. Call Fish and Wildlife at (401)789-0281 for information on Fort Greene, October 19-22, 2004. Fort Greene is limited to 5 participants and a lottery is required.

MUZZLELOADING DEER SEASON

Seasons, Dates and Permits Required

- A. EITHER SEX PERMIT - STATE LAND AND PRIVATE LAND
This permit **must** be purchased prior to the season's opening day.
October 30 – November 19, 2004
- B. ANTLERLESS PERMIT - PRIVATE LAND – ANTLERLESS
This permit may be purchased at any time.
October 30 – November 19, 2004
December 20 – 26, 2004
- C. BONUS Antlerless Muzzleloader Deer Permit is usable on private land only, for hunters checking in an antlerless deer on their A. Either sex permit

Deer taken by muzzleloader must be checked within 24 hours. Deer may be checked by an Environmental Police Officer, at specified vendors (see page 28), or at state operated check stations.

Firearm Restrictions:

Firearms are limited to single or double barrel flintlock, caplock, inline ignition system muzzle-loading shotgun or rifle only. Muzzle-loading rifles are limited to .45 caliber or larger. Smoothbore firearms limited to .50 caliber or 20 gauge or larger. Ammunition is limited to single lead projectile of the same caliber as the firearm. Sabot rounds either lead or jacketed permitted on .43 caliber or larger. Powder limited to black powder or approved substitutes. **All conversion kits, which use a replacement barrel to convert a typical modern shotgun into a muzzleloading rifle, are prohibited.** Approved sights are fixed iron sights, peep sights, aimpoints, and scopes (including telescopic). A firearm is considered unloaded when cap or pan powder is removed.

Orange requirements: 200 inches of daylight fluorescent orange is required for muzzleloading season. This may be in the form of a hat and/or vest.

Northwest Cooperative Deer Hunting Area: Permits may be obtained by sending a SASE (91/2x4) to: Northwest Coop, Division of Fish and Wildlife, P. O. Box 218, West Kingston, RI 02892, Attn: Muzzleloader. All permits must be returned to be eligible for future seasons.

ARCHERY DEER SEASON

MAINLAND

Junior Archery Hunting Weekend September 25-26 2004 open to all 12-14 year-olds with a valid bow license in the company of a licensed adult, 21 or over. Adults cannot carry a bow.

Seasons, Dates and Permits Required

- A. MAINLAND EITHER SEX PERMIT – State and private land, **must** purchase prior to the season
- B. ANTLERLESS ARCHERY PERMIT – Private land, may purchase at any time.
- C. BONUS ANTLERLESS PERMIT - Private lands. May be purchased after checking deer from one or the other of the Mainland and antlerless permits, but not from both.

Archery Season: October 1, 2004 through January 31, 2005 inclusive. The season total for archery deer hunters is three deer.

All deer taken by bow and arrow must be checked by an Environmental Police Officer, Department designee, or specified vendor within 24 hours, see pg. 28 for list.

Archery Equipment restrictions: Current regulations- Archers must use a long bow, recurve or compound bow capable of not less than forty (40) pounds at peak draw weight. Only broadhead tipped arrows with at least two (2) metal cutting edges are allowed. All broadheads must be 7/8th or greater at the widest point.

Mechanical broadheads- At time of press mechanical broadhead regulations were being promulgated and will be published as an addendum and available on the website.

Mechanical devices for drawing or releasing the arrow are not allowed for general archery deer hunting. A bow string release whereby the bow is hand held, hand drawn, and finger released is permitted. Newly passed statute RIGL 20-15-2 states that crossbow permits (including use of adaptive aids for conventional bows) may be issued by the department to those persons who have a permanent physical impairment due to injury or disease, congenital or acquired, which renders them so severely disabled as to be unable to use a conventional bow and arrow device. However, at time of press, adaptive aids & crossbow regulations were being promulgated and will be published as an addendum and available on the website. Pending adoption of these regulations, use of adaptive aids for those 65 and older will be allowed- this does not include use of crossbows. Also pending, permanently disabled people, who are unable to use conventional bows, may apply for crossbow & adaptive aid permits, under application procedure outlined in new regulations.

Orange Requirements: Two-hundred (200) square inches of daylight fluorescent orange is required during muzzle-loader season, when traveling to and from tree stands. Five hundred (500) square inches is required, at all times, during the shotgun deer season

Northwest Cooperative Deer Hunting Area: Permits may be obtained by sending a SASE (91/2x4) to: Northwest Coop, Division of Fish and Wildlife, P. O. Box 218, West Kingston, RI 02892, Attn: Archery. All permits must be returned to be eligible for future seasons.

John L. Curran State Park : All hunting is within inner boundaries as posted. Only a shotgun or bow and arrows may be possessed or used while hunting.

BLOCK ISLAND

Deer hunting seasons, dates, and permits required for the Town of New Shoreham shall be as follows:

Seasons, Dates, and Permits Required:

- A. Block Island Archery Either sex- private land, may be purchased prior to the season.
- B. Block Island Archery Second Either sex- may be purchased after checking first deer.

Archery Only:

October	18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29
November	1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12

Archery & Shotgun:

November	15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30
December	2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23
January	3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31
February	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

Restrictions: The archery season runs on selected days from Oct. 18- Feb. 18 as specified in the chart on page 7. A Block Island archery deer permit is required to hunt Block Island. Prior to the start of the season, five (5) permits may be purchased. After checking first deer and receiving an affidavit, the hunter may purchase additional permits, totaling no more than 5 at one time, to take additional deer. State owned land is closed to hunting. Hunting on private land is by written landowner permission only. In addition, all deer hunters must obtain written permission from the Block Island chief of police or representative. All deer must be tagged within 24 hours of taking, before being removed from the island. Proficiency testing is required of all archery hunters. A proficiency card, valid 2 years from date of issuance, must be carried while hunting.

On Block Island, the casting of artificial lights on any road, highway, field, woodland, forest, or residential property for the purpose of spotting or locating any wild animal is prohibited. All deer hunters must wear 500 sq. in. of fluorescent orange.

PRUDENCE & PATIENCE ISLANDS

Archery season dates shall be October 22, 2004 through January 9, 2005 if quota has not been reached.

Seasons, Dates, and Permits Required

- A. PRUDENCE EITHER SEX- Must purchase prior to season.
- B. ANTLERLESS- May purchase at any time.
- C. BONUS PERMIT – May purchase after checking first antlerless deer.

Prudence Island Permit Requirements

Hunters may take two (2) deer. However, hunters checking in an antlerless deer and receiving an affidavit, may purchase a bonus permit for an antlerless deer for an island total of 3. Bonus permits may be used at any time-no waiting period.

Prudence/Patience Island archers must carry a **current proficiency card** valid 2 years after date of issuance. Contact the Hunter Education Office, 789-3094, for course and testing information.

Archery hunting on state lands is by reservation, only. Reservations are required for the first 4 weekend/weekday periods, ending Nov. 5. Reservations are non-transferable.

All deer taken on Prudence Island must be checked at the designated check station or by an Environmental Police Officer, or designee, before being removed from the island. Deer taken on Patience Island may be checked at a vendor check station.

The casting of rays (spotlighting) is prohibited from October 1 – January 9 (RIHR 5.15).

2005 TURKEY SEASON

Permits for hunting wild turkey may be purchased from licensed vendors for taking one (1) bearded turkey, statewide, in areas open to hunting.

A mandatory hunter survey card will be issued to each person purchasing a turkey permit. This survey information is vital to the turkey management program in Rhode Island and assists DEM biologists in maintaining a successful wild turkey season for our hunters. Please, we request your cooperation in returning the hunter survey card **WHETHER YOU HUNT OR WHETHER OR NOT YOU WERE SUCCESSFUL**.

. General Rules and Regulations:

1. Season dates: Junior & Paraplegic hunters - April 23-24; Regular season: April 28 – May 26, 2005. Bag limit is one (1) bearded male turkey. Contact Fish and Wildlife for specific requirements.
2. Area open to hunting restricted to: That portion of Providence County west of the Blackstone River, Kent County, Washington County, except New Shoreham (Block Island), and in Newport County Tiverton and Little Compton.
3. Limited to: shotguns, gauges 10, 12, 16, and 20 only, with shot sizes 4, 5, 6 and 7 1/2 magnum loads only; and archery equipment consisting of a longbow (straight limb, reflex, recurve and compound bow) of not less than forty (40) pounds pull.
4. Arrows must be broadhead, with at least two cutting edges seven-eighths inches (7/8") or greater at the widest point. A bow string release device where the bow is hand held, hand drawn and finger released is allowed.
5. Hunters must carry a turkey calling device (non-electric) while hunting. Calling is the only legal method for hunting wild turkey gobblers.
6. The use of decoys while hunting is allowed.

Paraplegic Hunters: April 23-24 Contact the Great Swamp Field Office, 401-789-0281 for specific requirements for the special turkey season.

Junior turkey hunting weekend, April 23-24 is open to all 12-14 year olds, with a valid hunting license and accompanied by an unarmed licensed adult, 21 or over.

Prohibited:

- The use of any other firearm, live decoy(s), baiting, dog(s), cooperative drive(s),
- Electric calling devices, or any other devices, to capture or ensnare turkeys.
- The shooting of turkeys from the roost.
- Stalking or attempting to sneak up on a turkey to get a shot.
- The hunting, killing, taking or attempting to take, or possess any wild turkey by any individual unless they possess a permit to do so. However, a person having a valid Rhode Island hunting license may call turkeys for individuals with a valid turkey permit.

Reward

\$100.00 reward for anyone giving information leading to the arrest of persons illegally hunting or killing a wild turkey in Rhode Island. (Sponsored by the RI Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation.)

SMALL GAME SEASON

MAINLAND

Management Areas

Small game hunters are required to check in and out of the state operated check stations at Great Swamp, Arcadia, Durfee Hill, and Carolina management areas on the following dates: Oct. 16 & 17, Oct. 23 & 24, and Nov. 6 & 7. Check station hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

Pheasant hunting: Pheasants are stocked between opening day through the end of the season, January 17, 2005. Stocked management areas are: Arcadia, Black Hut, Big River, Buck Hill, Carolina, Durfee Hill, Great Swamp, Nicholas Farm, Sapowet, Simmons Mill Pond and 8 Rod Farm.

- Season limit for pheasant is 12 birds
- Each pheasant must be tagged immediately upon taking.
- Hunters may purchase 2 permits. Each permit allows taking of 6 pheasant
- Management Areas will remain open during the season stocking period

John L. Curran State Park: All hunting in this park is within the inner boundaries of the posted buffer zones. Only shotgun and archery hunting are allowed. The hunting and/or possession of Mourning Doves and/or Pigeons (Rock Doves) are prohibited.

Restrictions:

- The small game season is closed during the shotgun deer season except:
 - State management areas will remain open to small game hunting during the private land shotgun deer season, December 6 to December 12.
- **ATTENTION:** Ruffed grouse hunting is CLOSED in the Arcadia and Great Swamp Management Areas.
- Muzzle-loading rifles, no greater than .40 caliber with round ball and patch, may be used for hunting small mammals during established seasons
- Night Hunting of Raccoons with shot larger than No. 4 or rifles larger than .22 cal. rimfire long-rifle is prohibited.
- **Migratory game birds:** Federal law requires that migratory game bird hunters use a shotgun that is capable of holding no more than three (3) shells. The methods of taking migratory birds and waterfowl are the same as the US Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR part 20). Refer to Waterfowl Abstract for additional regulations.

THE BAY ISLANDS

Prudence & Patience Islands:

Written permission of the landowner, countersigned by the police chief, must be obtained to hunt private property on Prudence Island. **The Southern Prudence and Patience Management Areas are closed to small game hunting.** On Northern Prudence Island, the small game season is Jan 10-31, 2005. Raccoon open season for Prudence Island is Jan. 10 – Feb. 28, 2005 with written permission of landowner and special permit issued by DEM representative on Prudence Island. Raccoon may also be taken while bow hunting with a valid deer archery permit on Prudence October 24 – Jan. 9, 2005. Private land small game season is Nov 1-30, 2004.

Waterfowl hunting is permitted no more than 10 feet above mean high water on Prudence Island, except in that period from November 1 to November 30, and during the period October 12 to October 15 by paraplegic and double amputee deer hunters with special permit (RIHR 5.18).

Hope Island is open for small game hunting and waterfowl hunting, during the respective season dates.

BLOCK ISLAND

Pheasant hunting is open on Block Island, **with written permission**, on the first and third Wednesdays in Nov. 3, 17, Dec. 1, 15, 29, 30, and Jan. 5, 19, 2005. Cocks only may be taken on Block Island.

TRAPPING LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Species	Open season (dates inclusive)	Pelt Tagging	Bag Limit
Mink, Muskrat, Skunk, Raccoon, Opossum, Weasel, Red Fox, Gray Fox	November 1, 2004 - January 31, 2005	NO	No
Coyote	No closed season	YES	No
Beaver* State lands:	December 1, 2004 - January 31, 2005	YES	20
Private land:	November 1, 2004 - February 28, 2005		
Fisher*	December 1-22, 2004	YES	3
* Special permit required in addition to RI trapping license and may be obtained at Fish and Wildlife's Great Swamp Field Headquarters (401)789-0281			

General Regulations

- No person shall set, maintain or tend any trap without first obtaining a trapping license from the Department of Environmental Management. A resident of this state may set traps on property which they own and on which they are domiciled without obtaining a trapping license. (20-16-7)
- Every holder of a trapping license will be provided with a trapping harvest report card that must be returned to the Division of Fish and Wildlife within 30 days of the end of the trapping season. Failure to return the card will result in denial of trapping license renewal. (20-16-12)
- Traps may not be set, staked, or placed prior to 8:00 AM opening day.
- All traps must have at a minimum the trapper's current RI trapping license number attached by a metal tag or embedded or cut into the trap. (20-6-7)
- Written landowner permission is required to trap on private land. (20-16-9)
- All traps must be checked at least once in every 24 hour period. (20-6-9)
- There is no open season on bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) or river otter (*Lontra canadensis*).

Types of traps permitted

Furbearers for which there is an open season may taken in: box (a.k.a. "cage") traps, body-grip (a.k.a. "conibear") traps, or species specific traps, with the following restrictions:

Body-grip traps

- **Private land:** Body-grip (a.k.a. smooth wire or "conibear") type traps up to 6-1/2" jaw spread (i.e. "110, 120, 160" or equivalent) are permitted on land or in water on private land. Body-grip type traps greater than 6-1/2" but not exceeding 8 inch jaw spread ("220") may only be set if completely submerged in water or set no less than six (6) feet above the surface of the ground. Body-grip traps greater than 8" but not exceeding 10" jaw spread ("330") may only be set completely submerged in water.
- **State land:** Body-grip traps up to 6-1/2" jaw spread are only permitted in water sets (i.e. all or a portion of the trap in water) or if placed six (6) feet above the ground. Body-grip traps with a jaw spread greater than 6-1/2" but not exceeding 10" ("220-330") may only be set if completely submerged in water.

Box traps

- The use of box traps is permitted on private and state lands.

Species specific traps

- The use of species specific traps is permitted on private and state land

Trapping on state management areas

- All trappers harvesting furbearers from state management areas must obtain a special permit (no fee), issued by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Great Swamp Field Headquarters in addition to their current RI trapping license.

Prohibitions

- The use of poisons or snares. (20-16-6).
- The use of steel-jawed leghold traps (20-16-8).
- No person shall disturb, tend, or possess a trap of another, or take a furbearer animal from the traps of another unless specifically authorized to do so. (20-16-12).
- The setting of traps within ten feet of a beaver lodge or bank den or within eight feet of a muskrat lodge unless authorized by special permit.
- The taking or possession of a road-killed furbearer (20-16-1), unless with a current RI trapping license and during the open season for that species or as provided for under a current RI Scientific Collectors Permit (20-1-18) or otherwise permitted by the Division.
- The relocation of beaver.

Definitions

Species specific trap: Is characterized by all of the following:

1. Triggering and restraining mechanisms are enclosed within a housing;
2. Triggering and restraining mechanisms are only accessible through a single opening when set;
3. The access opening does not exceed 2 inches in diameter;
4. The triggering mechanism can only be activated by a pulling force;
5. A swivel mounted anchoring system.

RABIES

Rabies is a fatal disease. ALL mammals are susceptible. The virus is transmitted when the saliva or nervous system tissue of an infected animal enters through a bite, cut, or opening in the skin. Prevention and vaccination is crucial.

- **Precautions before hunting**
 - Sportsmen handling large numbers of mammals, or who butcher deer should receive pre-exposure rabies vaccinations.
 - Hunting dogs should be kept up to date on all vaccines, and boosted if exposed to suspect animals.
- **Precautions while hunting**
 - Avoid direct contact by always wearing rubber gloves during handling.
 - Avoid contact with saliva and nervous system tissues
 - Place carcass in a heavy plastic bag to avoid spread of disease.
- **Precautions at home**
 - Gloves, a rubber apron, and face protection should be worn when skinning, fleshing, and butchering animals, the virus can survive for weeks at refrigerator temperatures and for months to years when frozen.
 - Trim and discard all meat near wounds.
 - All animal parts not being utilized should be properly disposed of or buried.
 - Do not prepare meat with equipment used for skinning, or preparing carcass.
 - Clean all materials and surface areas used in game preparation, and disinfect with a 5% bleach solution for at least 20 minutes.
 - Thoroughly wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 60 seconds.

- **In case of exposure**
 - Wash the area thoroughly with soap and warm water for at least 2 minutes and contact your physician immediately.
 - If available, the head of the animal can be tested for rabies. If the animal is not available for testing, rabies treatment will be initiated for you. Consult your veterinarian immediately if your pet is exposed, and wear gloves when handling or cleaning its wounds

Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is caused by infection from the bacteria *Borrelia burgdorferi*, and is spread by the bite of ticks of the genus *Ixodes*. In the northeast the tick responsible for spreading this disease is commonly known as the deer tick. The life cycle of the deer tick has three stages. If you find a deer tick on your person, it is most likely in the adult stage which is likely to transmit the disease, the larval and nymph stages are extremely tiny and hard to see so check carefully after being outdoors.

Symptoms of Lyme Disease:

In Humans, the early stage of Lyme disease is usually (but not always) marked by one or more of the following symptoms:

- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle and joint pain
- Red, ringed skin rash
- Chills and fever
- Headache
- Swollen lymph nodes

In some persons, the rash never forms. In some, the first and only sign of Lyme disease is arthritis. In others, nervous system disorders are the only evidence of Lyme disease. Medical treatment for Lyme disease is important at any stage, but early detection and treatment is recommended.

Prevention of Lyme disease:

Because Lyme disease infection can be difficult to detect and to treat, prevention of tick bites and infection is critical. Some techniques to reduce the possibility of infection are:

- Wear light colored clothing so that ticks can be spotted more easily.
- Tuck pant legs into socks or boots and shirt into pants.
- Tape the area where pants meet socks so that ticks cannot crawl under clothing.
- Use insect repellants containing DEET on clothes and exposed skin, or treat clothes with permethrin, which kills ticks on contact.
- Wear a hat and a long-sleeved shirt for added protection
- Wash and dry clothing at high temperature
- Inspect body carefully and remove attached ticks with tweezers

Chronic Wasting Disease

What is CWD? CWD is a rare neurological disease that affects deer and elk. It attacks the brain producing small lesions that eventually result in death. CWD was first recognized in the late 60's in Colorado and recently has received much attention because of its discovery in free-ranging deer in southern Wisconsin and western Colorado. **Although domestic livestock and humans are not known to be susceptible to CWD, currently there is not enough information to prove that they are safe from the disease. Also there is no connection between CWD and BSE (mad cow disease).**

Where is CWD Found? To date, CWD has been found in free-ranging wild populations of deer and elk in Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Illinois, New Mexico, and in Saskatchewan, Canada.

How do I know if an animal has CWD? The only reliable method to diagnose CWD is to dispatch the animal and examine the brain tissue for lesions. Anyone observing a deer exhibiting CWD symptoms including staggering, poor posture, drooling, or drooping ears, should notify the DEM Division of Fish and Wildlife (401-789-0281) or DEM Enforcement (401-222-3070).

Should hunters be concerned? The abnormal proteins (prions) that cause CWD have not been found in venison however, one should avoid consuming the brain, spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils and lymph nodes of harvested animals. Health officials have advised hunters not to consume meat from animals known or suspected to be infected with CWD and recommend boning out meat and avoid cutting into the spinal cord or brain. As usual, hunters should continue to employ normal precautions when field dressing deer, such as wearing rubber gloves. Concerns about CWD should not keep hunters from participating in Rhode Island's deer seasons.

Are Urine-Based Deer Lures Safe? In most cases, the urine used to formulate commercial "doe-in-heat" or other buck lures is collected from captive deer or elk farms. If CWD prions are passed in the urine of CWD-infected deer and elk, the infective agent may be present in these lures. If present, then CWD prions may inadvertently be placed where deer may contact and ingest them. At this time we do not know whether any captive/farmed deer or elk used by the lure industry have ever contracted or been tested for CWD. **We recommend that hunters use caution in spreading urine-based lures in the environment, and avoid placing the lures on their clothing or skin. Avoid placing deer lures on the ground or on vegetation where deer can reach them.** Deer lures can be safely placed above deer height, allowing air circulation to disperse the scent.

Is there any way to control CWD? Hunting is important to wildlife management. Preventing overpopulation decreases the risk of disease transmission.

Chronic Wasting Disease: Precautions in Rhode Island *(A summary of the regulations)*

You can help keep Rhode Island CWD free by following the important regulations below.

Prohibited Carcass Parts:

No person shall import or possess in Rhode Island the brain, eyes, spinal cord, lymph nodes, tonsils, or spleen of any cervid (defined as a member of the family cervidae, including white-tailed deer, mule deer, black-tailed deer, elk, moose, caribou, and reindeer) taken in or originating from a **Chronic Wasting Disease endemic area** [defined as any county or county bordering a county where chronic wasting disease has been diagnosed, including the following: Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, New Mexico, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Montana, or the Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan or Alberta, (additional areas updated on an as needed basis)], or such parts from captive or captive-bred cervid obtained from outside Rhode Island, except that as provided in *Marking of Imported Carcasses and Parts*, such parts and carcasses may be transported through Rhode Island as part of an interstate shipment.

Permitted Carcasses and Parts:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| ▪ the hide or cape; | finished taxidermy; |
| ▪ the skull-cap with antlers attached; | tanned hides; |
| ▪ the antlers; | the upper canine. |

Non-CWD Endemic Areas: All parts and carcasses may be imported into the State, following guidelines below:

Must be affixed with a legible label bearing the following information: the species of animal, the State, Province or Country where the animal was taken or where the shipment originated, the name of the person who took the animal or the name of the shipper, the address of the taker or shipper and, for transport through the State, the destination of the shipment. Hunter harvested carcasses, parts or meat taken outside Rhode Island shall also bear the marking, tagging or labeling required by the State where the animal was taken.

Importation of Live Cervids: Permit required by DEM Director designee.

Release: No person shall release to the wild in the State of Rhode Island any captive or wild cervid.

Feeding and baiting deer is prohibited in Rhode Island: Exceptions:

- bona fide agricultural practices i.e. crops and livestock;
- by cutting of trees or brush;
- elevated bird/squirrel feeders located within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling.

Distribution of Certain Food Materials: No person shall feed wild or captive cervids with any material that contains protein derived from any mammalian tissues.

Rhode Island CWD Surveillance

Deer heads will again be collected during the upcoming deer season. **Your cooperation is essential.** We cannot be declared CWD-free without meeting our quota for deer testing. Hunters submitting deer heads must supply the following information: Name, address, location of harvest, and date, sex & age of deer.

Hunter Safety Information

All hunting accidents must be reported to an Environmental Police Officer within 72 hours (RIGL 20-13-12).

Hunter Safety Course Requirements & Licensing: Persons applying for a hunting license or archery permit for the first time or not having been a member of the armed forces must complete a course in safe hunting or archery practices and have been issued a Certificate of Competency to obtain a license. Applicants must present a valid hunter safety card from Rhode Island or other state, or possess a previous RI hunting license. A list of hunter safety instructors, dates, and locations of classes is available from the Hunter Safety Office: 401)789-3094

Hunter Ethics/ Landowner Cooperation Course: The RI Division of Fish & Wildlife Hunter Safety Office is offering a hunter ethics/landowner cooperation course. By participating in this course, hunters will be more familiar with the concerns of landowners and non-hunting public. Course is open to anyone over 18 who meets the requirements for a RI Hunting license. There is a 4 hour classroom program, including a written exam, and also proficiency testing. Successful participants will be placed on a registry which landowners may reference when seeking hunters for their property. For more information, call the Hunter Safety Office 789-3094.

Crossbow safety rules (Excerpted from the International Bowhunter Education Program)

- ➔ Read and understand the owner's manual thoroughly before assembling or shooting your crossbow.
- ➔ Never carry a cocked crossbow with an arrow loaded while walking.
- ➔ If hunting from a treestand, always cock the crossbow on the ground before climbing into stand.
- ➔ Never raise or lower a cocked crossbow from a treestand with an arrow loaded.
- ➔ Always keep fingers below the rail when shooting the crossbow.
- ➔ Never dry-fire a crossbow.
- ➔ Always positively, identify your target and area beyond it before shooting.
- ➔ To uncock a crossbow, shoot an arrow tipped with a field-point into soft ground or target.
- ➔ Make sure the limbs of the crossbow are free of obstructions before shooting.
- ➔ Keep the safety on until ready to shoot.

**Report poaching and other violations
24 hour Enforcement Hotline 222-3070**

BOATING SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS!

BOATING REGULATIONS*:

- All motorboats must have a valid registration card with them and display the boat registration numbers and current decals on each side of the boat's bow.
- All vessels, rowboats, canoes, and others must carry one approved personal flotation device for each person on board.
- All vessels, if operated between sunset and sunrise, shall carry and exhibit the required lights for their class (size) boat. Rowboats shall have ready and show a white light, in time to prevent collision.
- Every person operating a vessel on Rhode Island territorial waters who shall fail to heave to immediately upon a shouted command, or flare fired from a marine patrol vessel of the Department of Environmental Management shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$500.00. No person shall dump, destroy, or throw anything from a vessel or boat that has been ordered to heave-to by a marine patrol vessel.
- No person shall operate any vessel, or manipulate any water skis, surfboard or similar device in a reckless manner so as to endanger the life, limb, or property of any person.
- State boating accesses are closed one-half hour after sunset to 5:00 AM except for fishing, hunting, launching and/or mooring of boats.
- Boats shall be launched or hauled on state property only at designated areas. *
- Only vehicles launching or landing a boat are permitted to park in designated boat trailer areas.
- Mooring of boats or parking of vehicles so as to obstruct launching ramps prohibited.
- 45 mph speed limit for all motor vessels in inland waterways, including Narragansett Bay. 5 mph speed limit within 200 ft of docks, docked or moored vessels, or where otherwise marked.
- Maximum horsepower restrictions exist for many inland waters, available in the RI freshwater fishing abstracts
- The operation of personal watercraft within 200ft of shore shall be at headway speed only.

LAW ENFORCEMENT: The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Division of Enforcement, local police, and harbormasters are charged with enforcing the provisions of the Rhode Island Boating Laws on tidal and non-tidal waters.

SAFE BOATING TIPS:

- Watch your wake.
- Keep fire fighting and lifesaving equipment in good condition and readily available at all times.
- Obey the Rules of the Road.
- Always have children and non-swimmers wear personal flotation devices.
- If you capsize, remember that if the boat continues to float, stay with it.
- Do not permit persons to ride on parts of the boat not designed for such use. Bow, seat back, or gunwale riding can be especially dangerous.
- Keep an alert lookout. Serious accidents have resulted from failure to use your eyes.
- Be especially careful when operating in any area where swimmers or divers may be. Divers are easily recognized by the red flag with a white diagonal slash or blue and white flag, which marks the approximate center of their activities.
- Be extremely careful of your footing. Falls are one of the chief causes of accidents.

- Always instruct one other person on board in handling your boat in case you become disabled or fall overboard.

For state launch sites and further information on boating in Rhode Island refer to the **Rhode Island Boater's Guide** available from the Office of Boat Registration and Licenses, 235 Promenade St., Providence, tel. 222-6647

PLEASE DO NOT FEED WATERFOWL...IT'S THE LAW!!!

Five Reasons Why Feeding Waterfowl is Harmful

People have always enjoyed feeding gulls, geese, ducks or swans at beaches and parks. What they might not realize is that feeding these animals is detrimental to the birds and the environment in many significant ways. As a result of the harm it causes, a law was passed that prohibits feeding wild waterfowl. Please read on to learn more about the harmful effects of hand feeding waterfowl.

When people feed waterfowl

- **DISEASE:**
 - Waterfowl can become concentrated in small urban environments that are not capable of supporting large flocks allowing disease to spread quickly.
- **MALNUTRITION:**
 - Waterfowl may become malnourished and risks of disease increase.
- **DEPENDANCY:**
 - Birds can become nuisance animals at feeding sites and other areas where they congregate.
- **HABITAT DEGRADATION:**
 - Unnatural concentrations of waterfowl can cause overgrazing and erosion, which may be undesirable for other species.
- **WATER POLLUTION:**
 - High concentrations of fecal coliform bacteria contribute to unsanitary conditions and to closures of beaches and shellfish beds.

Important points to ponder

LOW nutrition foods include:

Bread, crackers, popcorn, and pastries do not provide the necessary energy and nutrients for proper health, and energy is wasted in digesting these foods. Malnutrition will lead to low energy and muscle deterioration, development of deformed wings in young birds, and a decrease in successful reproduction.

Natural foods should include:

Insects, grasses, and submerged aquatic plants in order to buildup enough stored fats and energy for surviving the New England winters.

SUNRISE AND SUNSET TABLE
SEPTEMBER 2004 – MAY 2005

	SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Sunrise	Sunset	Sunrise	Sunset	Sunrise	Sunset
1	6:11	19:18	6:42	18:27	6:17	16:40	6:52	16:16
2	6:12	19:17	6:43	18:25	6:18	16:39	6:53	16:16
3	6:13	19:15	6:44	18:24	6:19	16:38	6:54	16:16
4	6:14	19:13	6:45	18:22	6:20	16:37	6:55	16:15
5	6:15	19:12	6:46	18:20	6:22	16:35	6:56	16:15
6	6:16	19:10	6:47	18:19	6:23	16:34	6:57	16:15
7	6:17	19:08	6:48	18:17	6:24	16:33	6:58	16:15
8	6:18	19:07	6:49	18:15	6:25	16:32	6:59	16:15
9	6:19	19:05	6:50	18:14	6:26	16:31	7:00	16:15
10	6:20	19:03	6:51	18:12	6:28	16:30	7:01	16:15
11	6:21	19:02	6:53	18:11	6:29	16:29	7:01	16:15
12	6:22	19:00	6:54	18:09	6:30	16:28	7:02	16:15
13	6:23	18:58	6:55	18:07	6:31	16:27	7:03	16:16
14	6:24	18:56	6:56	18:06	6:33	16:26	7:04	16:16
15	6:25	18:55	6:57	18:04	6:34	16:25	7:05	16:16
16	6:26	18:53	6:58	18:03	6:35	16:25	7:05	16:16
17	6:27	18:51	6:59	18:01	6:36	16:24	7:06	16:17
18	6:28	18:50	7:00	18:00	6:37	16:23	7:06	16:17
19	6:29	18:48	7:02	17:58	6:39	16:22	7:07	16:17
20	6:30	18:46	7:03	17:57	6:40	16:22	7:08	16:18
21	6:31	18:44	7:04	17:55	6:41	16:21	7:08	16:18
22	6:32	18:43	7:05	17:54	6:42	16:20	7:09	16:19
23	6:33	18:41	7:06	17:52	6:43	16:20	7:09	16:19
24	6:35	18:39	7:07	17:51	6:44	16:19	7:10	16:20
25	6:36	18:37	7:08	17:49	6:46	16:19	7:10	16:21
26	6:37	18:36	7:10	17:48	6:47	16:18	7:10	16:21
27	6:38	18:34	6:11	16:47	6:48	16:18	7:11	16:22
28	6:39	18:32	6:12	16:45	6:49	16:17	7:11	16:23

	JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH		APRIL		MAY	
Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Sunrise	Sunset	Sunrise	Sunset	Sunrise	Sunset	Sunrise	Sunset
1	7:12	16:26	6:57	17:01	6:20	17:35	5:29	18:10	5:43	19:43
2	7:12	16:27	6:56	17:02	6:19	17:37	5:27	18:11	5:41	19:44
3	7:12	16:28	6:55	17:03	6:17	17:38	5:26	18:12	5:40	19:45
4	7:12	16:28	6:54	17:05	6:16	17:39	5:24	18:13	5:39	19:46
5	7:12	16:29	6:53	17:06	6:14	17:40	5:22	18:14	5:38	19:47
6	7:12	16:30	6:52	17:07	6:12	17:41	6:21	19:15	5:36	19:48
7	7:12	16:31	6:51	17:08	6:11	17:42	6:19	19:17	5:35	19:49
8	7:12	16:32	6:50	17:10	6:09	17:44	6:17	19:18	5:34	19:50
9	7:11	16:33	6:48	17:11	6:08	17:45	6:16	19:19	5:33	19:51
10	7:11	16:34	6:47	17:12	6:06	17:46	6:14	19:20	5:32	19:52
11	7:11	16:35	6:46	17:13	6:04	17:47	6:12	19:21	5:31	19:53
12	7:11	16:37	6:45	17:15	6:03	17:48	6:11	19:22	5:29	19:54
13	7:10	16:38	6:43	17:16	6:01	17:49	6:09	19:23	5:28	19:55
14	7:10	16:39	6:42	17:17	5:59	17:50	6:08	19:24	5:27	19:56
15	7:09	16:40	6:41	17:18	5:58	17:51	6:06	19:25	5:26	19:57
16	7:09	16:41	6:39	17:20	5:56	17:53	6:04	19:26	5:25	19:58
17	7:09	16:42	6:38	17:21	5:54	17:54	6:03	19:27	5:24	19:59
18	7:08	16:43	6:37	17:22	5:53	17:55	6:01	19:28	5:24	20:00
19	7:07	16:45	6:35	17:23	5:51	17:56	6:00	19:30	5:23	20:01
20	7:07	16:46	6:34	17:25	5:49	17:57	5:58	19:31	5:22	20:02
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25	7:03	16:52	6:27	17:31	5:41	18:02	5:51	19:36	5:18	20:07
26	7:03	16:53	6:26	17:32	5:39	18:04	5:50	19:37	5:17	20:08
27	7:02	16:54	6:23	17:33	5:37	18:05	5:48	19:38	5:17	20:08
28	7:01	16:56	6:22	17:34	5:36	18:06	5:47	19:39	5:16	20:09
29	7:00	16:57			5:34	18:07	5:45	19:40	5:15	20:10
30	6:59	16:58			5:32	18:08	5:44	19:42	5:15	20:11
31	6:58	16:59			5:31	18:09			5:14	20:12

Times are for Providence, Rhode Island and are applicable for hunting purposes to all towns and counties of the State of Rhode Island. Chart adjusted for daylight savings time.

STATE CHECK STATION OPERATING TIMES :

Small Game Season: October, 16-17, 23-24, 30-31, and Nov 6-7. Stations open ½ hour before sunrise and close at sunset.

Shotgun Deer Season: November 27 - December 5, 2004, 8:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. Durfee Hill is open 6:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Turkey hunters: please check your permit for the list of turkey check stations.

STATE OPERATED CHECK STATIONS

Arcadia Management Area
Rt. 165, Ten Rod Road, at Wood
River, Exeter, Phone: 539-7117.

Durfee Hill Management Area
Rt. 94, Reynolds Road
Glocester, Phone: 568-6753.

Carolina Management Area
Pine Hill Road
Richmond, Phone: 364-3483.

Great Swamp Management Area
off Liberty Lane,
West Kingston, Phone: 789-1636.

VENDOR DEER CHECK STATIONS

The following is a tentative list of deer check stations. A phone call to the vendor of choice to verify hours and season availability is strongly suggested **NOTE: All deer taken during the first portion of the shotgun season (November 27– December 5, 2004) must be checked at a state operated check station.**

Al Hibbard
P.O. Box 313
392 Narragansett Ave.
Prudence Is.,RI. 02872 ph. 683-1619

Cap't Don Bait & Tackle
5223B Old Post Rd.
Charlestown, RI 02813 ph. 322-0544

Arthur Rose
West Side Road
Block Island, RI 02807 ph. 466-2495

Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle
4019 Quaker Lane
North Kingstown, RI 02852 ph. 294-9642

Big Bear Hunting and Fishing Supply
401 Putnam Pike
Harmony, RI 02829 ph. 949-0339

Pete's Bait & Tackle
341 Burnside Ave
Woonsocket, RI 02895 ph. 767-0990

Breachway Bait & Tackle
166 Charlestown Beach Rd.
Charlestown, 02813 ph. 364 – 6407

Sandy Bottom Bait & Tackle
97 Sandy Bottom Rd.
Coventry, RI 02816 ph. 823-1540

Foster Bear Arms
120 Danielson Pike
Foster, RI 02825 ph. 647-4867

Snowhurst Farm
462 Chopmist Hill Rd, Rt. 102
Chepachet, RI 02814 ph. 568-8900

Main Bait and Tackle Shop
2599 South Main St. Fall River, MA
02724 ph. 1-508-679-3853

Hope Valley Bait & Tackle
Main St. (PO Box 245)
Corner of Rt. 3 & 138
Hope Valley, RI 02832 ph. 539-2757

Gun & Dive Shop
140 Main St.
Westerly, RI 02891 ph. 596-4469

Respect Landowners' Rights

Trespassing is illegal and can result in fines (RIGL 11-44-4). Written landowner permission is required for hunting deer. On wildlife management areas your permit is your written permission. In order to keep private land open to hunting in future years; it is recommended that the hunter gain the landowner's permission **prior** to hunting, for all hunting activities. Treat the landowner's land with respect. **Know the property boundaries and respect the rights of abutting property owners.** It is unlawful to shoot upon the land of another without their permission. A note or word of thanks to your host after the hunt will be greatly appreciated, and help to foster continued positive relations.

Outdoor Recreation Code of Ethics

I will:

- Consider myself an invited guest of the landowner, and conduct myself so that I will be welcome in the future.
- Recognize the rights and privileges of others sharing the same lands and waters.
- Understand the habits and habitats of the species, the regulations, and the fragile nature of the environment.
- Treat game with profound respect, engaging only in fair chase and seeking primarily a priceless outdoor experience.
- Avoid hunting practices that degrade the safety and quality of the sport.
- Avoid practices that disrupt nesting and denning activities.
- Avoid irresponsible use of alcohol and other drugs during outdoor recreation.
- Exercise care when dealing with fire and smoking materials.
- Support fish and game laws and harvest quotas so that future generations can have the same outdoor experiences we now enjoy.

Landowner Liability:

The landowner assumes no liability for any injury to person or property while the hunter is recreationally using private lands, unless the landowner has willfully failed to inform the hunter of dangerous conditions on private lands, and as long as no fee is charged to hunt (RIGL 32-6-3).



Please cut out courtesy cards below for your convenience-----

Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife
Hunter – Landowner Courtesy Card
Bearer of this card

Name

Address

Has Permission to hunt upon my land during the
period

Landowner Signature

Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife
Hunter – Landowner Courtesy Card
Bearer of this card

Name

Address

Has Permission to hunt upon my land during the
period

Landowner Signature

**Rhode Island Division of Fish & Wildlife
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879**

Place First Class Postage Here

To: